Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
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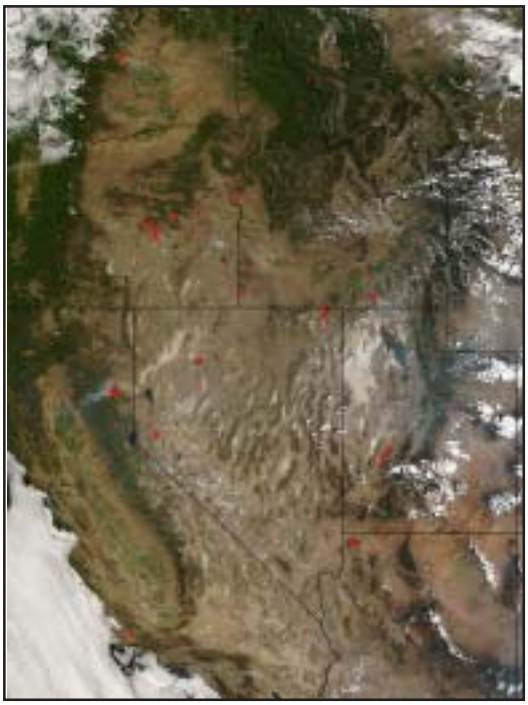
Hot, Dry Conditions Spark Wildfires Across Western U.S.

A series of severe wildfires raged across the western United States on Sunday, July 8, 2007, when the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on NASA's Terra satellite captured this image.



Actively burning fires are indicated with red pixels.

As this image shows, a number of states have been affected by fire activity, made worse by dry conditions, high temperatures and strong winds, according to fire officials.

California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana each reported wildfires of varying severity. Many of these fires forced evacuations and shut down highways.

One of the largest fires was in Utah, where winds fanned a massive blaze that has burned more than 283,000 acres, according to fire officials. The wildfire is the largest in the history of the state.

Over the weekend, the National Incident Information Center received reports of 419 new fires, 56 of which are more than 500 acres large.

MODIS Rapid Response Photo

Wallops Interns Participate in Leadership Conference

NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract (NSROC) intern and co-op students Nick Wroblewski, Cathy Hesh, Taylor Green and Nate Empson were honored with an invitation to do a 70 minute presentation at a National Student Leadership Conference (NSLC), a career-focused Leadership Conference for Outstanding High School Students, held recently at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Since 1989, tens of thousands of outstanding high school students from across the United States and more than 45 countries have come to the NSLC to explore the qualities of leadership and get an insider's perspective on some of today's most exciting and important professions.

NSLC students have the opportunity to meet with and learn from prominent national and world leaders including Supreme Court Justices, Cabinet Secretaries, ambassadors, diplomats, renowned surgeons and medical researchers, business leaders, journalists, radio personalities, artists and engineers.

The NSROC team prepared an interactive presentation that demonstrated the application of mechanical, aeronautical, and electrical engineering in the life cycle of a sounding rocket mission from inception, to buildup, testing and launch.

Wallops Shorts.....

On the Road

Rebecca Hudson, NASA Public Affairs Office, and Ed Parrot, Wallops-Teacher-on-Loan, helped participants build and launch paper towel "rockets" as part of the the Chincoteague Park and Recreation Summer Enrichment Program.

In the Field

Wallops personnel have begun arriving at Andoya Rocket Range in Norway to support the launch of two Terrier-Orion sounding rockets in August.

Brenda Mulac, LJT, and Dave Easmunt, NASA Range and Mission Management Office, review data during the DC-8 check flights.

Wallops is supporting NASA's Tropical Composition, Cloud and Climate Coupling (TC4) mission on NASA's DC-8 aircraft. The TC-4 mission from San Jose, Costa Rica, will investigate the structure, properties and processes in the tropical Eastern Pacific. Carefully planned aircraft observations are required to validate satellite data and to provide critical observations not available from the satellites.

This will be the final Wallops mission on the DC-8 as the plane returns to NASA Dryden Flight Research Center after the campaign.

Diversity Council Words to Live By

"To be one, to be united is a great thing. But to respect the right to be different is maybe even greater" Unknown

Balloon Program Office Lunch & Learn

July 17
Noon to 1 p.m.
Williamsburg Room, Building E-2

CREAM

Dr. Eun Suk Seo from the Unviersity of Maryland and principal investigator for the Cosmic Ray Energetics and Mass (CREAM) project will share the results of two record breaking scientific balloon flights from Antarctica.

Need Cell Phone Service?

A Verizon wireless representative will be at Wallops in the Building E-2 Conference Room on Wednesday, July 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to assist in starting a new plan, upgrading an old plan or answer questions about the various Verizon Wireless plans available.

Civil Service Travel Regs

FMR 301-10.22 How much annual leave may I use in conjunction with official travel?

Including the day spent traveling to and from the TDY location, the total number of days spent on official government business must be greater than or equal to the number of days spent on personal business. Authorized rest periods are considered part of official travel per regulations. See FTR 301-11.20.

Days on personal business include the following:

a. Weekends not required in order to perform the job (see FTR 301-11.21).

b. Days on annual leave or any non-paid non-work status other than sick leave.

c. Holidays.

For questions about travel regulation, contact the GSFC Travel Office at x66-5910.

Technology Transfer Overview Course

Building E-2 Training Room
August 16
9 a.m. to Noon

This overview course is designed to familiarize NASA civil servants and contractors with policies and procedures related to technology transfer.

Special emphasis on Center-specific practices provides participants with the knowledge and tools to work with the Innovative Partnerships Program (IPP) Office on technology transfer and partnership activities.

Learn:
• When and how to file a New Technology Report (NTR), and how filing NTRs can make you eligible for recognition and monetary awards.

• How the IPP Office can help you secure intellectual property protection for your reported technologies.

• How you may be able to win new work through collaborations with other NASA Centers or non-NASA organizations.

• The in's and out's of various agreements.

Civil servants can register online at https://satern.nasa.gov. Contractors can register by contacting Dale Hithon at Dale.L.Hithon@nasa.gov or at x66-2691.

Critical Lift Overhead Crane Operator Training

July 25
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Building N-159, Room E-208

This course satisfies the requirements of the NASA Standard for Lifting Devices and Equipment for the operation of electric, manual or air driven overhead cranes and hoists at WFF during Critical Lift Operations. A prerequisite for this class is a current physical examination and a valid non-critical overhead crane operator's license.

To enroll, contact Bill Hargrove at x1797. There is no charge for the course for NASA civil service employees. Contractors and other tenant personnel will be required to pay $200 per student. All participants must forward a training request form code to A. V. Hanagud, Code 546 prior to the date of training.

Project Implementation Managing Orbital Launches at Wallops

Guest Speakers:
Ron Walsh and Jack Vieira, Range and Mission Management Office

July 25
Noon to 1 p.m.
Project Support Building Auditorium

Presented by the Women of Wallops and the Baltimore Chapter, Project Management Institute. For further information call Rob Hurley at x1881 or Rebecca Hudson at x1139.

Christmas in July

July 27
5 p.m.
Rocket Club

Come think cool thoughts, enjoy!

Bring a covered dish to share.

If you'd like, bring a wrapped gift valued at no more than $5.00 for a gift exchange.

Christmas Carols and Drink Specials

Contact Sandy Gunter at x1454 after 4:30 p.m. or Claudia Underwood at x1414.

Debedeavon Toastmasters

July 18
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Navy Cropper Center

There will be an installation of new officers for the 2007-2008 term.
Light refreshments will be served.

Toastmasters provides training and practice in public speaking, including prepared speeches, impromptu speaking, active listening, and speech evaluation.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov
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